



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Haselbeck, R. *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/815,242

Case No.: E1025Y

Art Unit: 1635

Filed: March 21, 2001

Examiner: Terra C. Gibbs

For: IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL GENES  
IN PROKARYOTES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the office action mailed October 19, 2005 please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.

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37 C.F.R. 1.8 Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Sheldon O. Heber

Date: January 13, 2006

Sheldon O. Heber